

**From:** list(u)7531 at Hotmail  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/24/02 10:26am  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Hi,

Here are my comments on the Microsoft anti-trust case:

1. Surely Microsoft has far too much influence over the computer manufacturers. If Microsoft force them to sell PC's which only have Windows installed, or are Not allowed to sell Windows on their PC's at all, that prevents fair competition at the most important point.
2. In the "Internet age" product security features are essential. If PC's can be hacked, that poses a grave threat to National Security because these vulnerable systems can be used to crash Government mail servers. Microsoft should be held accountable for this. One viable option is to make them offer a "bounty" for each vulnerability discovered, without allowing them to impose punitive non-disclosure terms.
3. In view of this, should Microsoft be made to audit all the program code in their Windows operating systems within a reasonable period. This is essential in the "home user" environment where trained support personnel are not available, and there are no firewalls to stop hackers. Updates would not always be performed by users who didn't understand the importance of the security issues involved.
4. To promote fair competition in the software development market, Microsoft should be required to disclose, in full, the network protocols and programming functions used in their products. They should also be made to fully disclose all future network protocols and other "application interface" features such as the Hotmail "HTTP mail retrieval" protocols, for "fair competition" purposes and security audit.

Regards,

Adrian